AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of the claims in the application:

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A handheld telephone set used by connecting an earphone, comprising:

a telephone set main body unit;

detecting means for detecting which of a dual-ear mount type earphone and a single-ear mount type earphone is mounted to said telephone set main body unit;

an amplifier for amplifying an ambient sound and delivering said sound to said earphone; and

a control device for adjusting a signal level of said ambient sound output from said amplifier according to an output of said detecting means~~.~~,

wherein when said dual-ear mount type earphone is mounted to said telephone set main body unit a gain of said amplifier is increased to increase said signal level of said sound output from said amplifier, and when said single-ear mount type earphone is mounted to said telephone set main body unit said gain of said amplifier is reduced to decrease said signal level of said sound output from said amplifier.

Claim 2. (Canceled)

Claim 3. (Currently Amended) The handheld telephone set as claimed in claim 1, wherein when said dual-ear mount type earphone is mounted to said telephone set main body unit said control device controls ~~a~~ the gain of said amplifier by feedback according to an analog audio signal delivered to said earphone.

Claim 4. (Currently Amended) The handheld telephone set as claimed in claim 1, wherein when said single-ear mount type earphone is mounted to said telephone set main body unit said control device ~~fixes a~~ reduces the gain of said amplifier ~~according to an output of said detection means~~ to a fixed level.

Claim 5. (Previously Presented) The handheld telephone set as claimed in claim 1, wherein said amplifier superposes a digital signal on a digital audio signal according to said ambient sound.

Claim 6. (Previously Presented) The handheld telephone set as claimed in claim 1, wherein said amplifier superposes an analog signal on an analog audio signal according to said ambient sound.

Claim 7. (Previously Presented) The handheld telephone set as claimed in claim 1, wherein said ambient sound is acquired by a microphone.

Claim 8. (Currently Amended) An audio processing method performed in a handheld telephone set used by connecting an earphone to a telephone set main body unit, comprising the steps of: detecting which of a dual-ear mount type earphone and a single-ear mount type earphone is mounted to said telephone set main body unit; and adjusting a signal level of an ambient sound according to said earphone type when said ambient sound is superposed on said earphone~~.~~

wherein when said dual-ear mount type earphone is mounted to said telephone set main body unit said signal level of said ambient sound is increased, and when said single-ear mount type earphone is mounted to said telephone set main body unit said signal level of said ambient sound is decreased.

Claim 9. (Canceled)

Claim 10. (Previously Presented) The audio processing method as claimed in claim 8, wherein when said dual-ear mount type earphone is mounted to said telephone set main body unit said signal level of said ambient sound is controlled by

feedback according to an analog audio signal delivered to said earphone.

Claim 11. (Currently Amended) The audio processing method as claimed in claim 8, wherein when said single-ear mount type earphone is mounted to said telephone set main body unit said signal level of said ambient sound is reduced to a fixed level.